



Houghton Valley School

110 Houghton Bay Road, Houghton Bay, Wellington.

HVS JUNIOR SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER Term 1, 2019

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

Ngā mihi o Te Tau Hou! This is the first edition of the *Junior Syndicate Newsletter* for 2019.

First and foremost, we would like to welcome Ashleigh Kulwant to the Houghton Valley School Junior team. We are excited to have her on-board and hope she enjoys her first year in Ti kouka.

The newsletter has been compiled just to let you know some of the things we are working on this term. Term One will see us focus on the areas below. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed, remind you of key practices, events and to give you advice on how to help your child.

The teachers in the Junior Syndicate this year are:

Harakeke-Room 5: Monica Mercury/Rekha Tiwari Year 2

Ti Kouka-Room 6: Ashleigh Kulwant/Rekha Tiwari Year 1/2

Mahoe-Room 7: Nicola O'Halloran NE/Year 1

Ngaio-Room 8: Jos Abernethy/Mel Beirne (Due to begin later this term) NE

Reading Recovery Teacher/Sustainability Leader: Jill Holmstead

Sustainability

Health, PE and the Science Curriculum

This will be the overarching topic for the year. Jill Holmstead is the HVS Sustainability Leader and will be working in classrooms each week to re-establish our environmental responsibilities and ensure we have a clear and consistent focus on our amazing school environment.

Ko Wai Au? - Who are you?

Health and Social Science

The beginning topic for the term which has us looking at who we are and learning more about each other in order to build a positive classroom. We are also establishing routines and behaviour expectations, reviewing and sharing our mihimihi, (an introduction about ourselves) and learning new information about our classmates, their families and interests.

Positive Behaviour of Learning - PB4L

We will continue with the Positive Behaviour for Learning as a school-wide system this year, however, we are currently undergoing a review of this with the staff, which will then be shared with our children and whānau for constructive feedback. We see PB4L as something which is 'living and evolving' and constantly changing. We look forward to sharing our findings with you.

BALL SKILLS

Health and PE

There will be focus on fundamental movement skills as well as practice with small and large balls.

MATHEMATICS

Number knowledge

We will be focused on what current number knowledge our students have and building on this knowledge in fun ways with the use of videos, games, recitation, small groups and independent work

SUN HATS AND WATER BOTTLES

Sunhats are compulsory in and should be worn until the end of this term. Please ensure your child has suitable headgear. The wide-brimmed and legionnaire caps are the most recommended headwear. Students are also encouraged to bring their own water bottles to keep hydrated during the day.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Due to the recent humid weather, the junior syndicate teachers ask that you ensure your children are dressed appropriately. Light clothing, shorts, T-shirts and all-purpose sandals are recommended just until it starts to cool down. Jerseys, sweatshirts, long-sleeved shirts and long trousers are not suitable in the classroom at the moment.

TE-HUI-A-KURA (Whole School Assembly)

This year, whole school assemblies will be held every *even* week from **9.15 am on a Friday morning**. Families are welcome to attend. Please note the change of time.

JUNIOR SYNDICATE HUI

They will be every *odd* week of the term from **9.15 am in Ngaio**. All whānau are welcome

to join us.

LIBRARY CELEBRATION WEEK

It's exciting to have our school library back in action. We are celebrating with buddy reading on Monday. The rest of the week the junior team will be reading picture books. Your child will be given the opportunity to choose stories, mix and socialise with other students, and hear stories from our awesome junior teachers.

All week our amazing librarian, Joanna has been organising exciting activities for your children to be inspired to use the HVS Library. ,

Important dates coming up

Week 2:

Annual HVS Beach Day

Week 3:

HVS Powhiri for new whānau and staff (9.10am),

Library Celebration Week (Having the library back in full use)

Parent Information Evening (5.30pm),

HVS School Picnic (5.30pm),

Te Matatini o Te Ao National Kapa Haka Champs (Westpac Stadium)

Week 6:

Cross country training begins

Week 9:

Goal Setting

Week 10:

April 12th - Last day of Term One

How you can help your child

- Go to the Public Library and help choose topic related books.
- Use the HVS library to find lots of books.
- Promote independence that is age-appropriate.
- Encourage your child to be involved in lots of creative practices, imaginary play, music, dance and drama.
- Get them to read to you on a daily basis or read with and to them when you can.
- Give your child opportunities to write. Diaries, shopping lists.
- Use mathematics in real-life contexts - 'Help me set the table, how many plates,

knives and forks will we need?'

- During homework times, encourage your child to think for themselves

If you need to contact us via email, please see the addresses below.

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The HVS Junior Syndicate